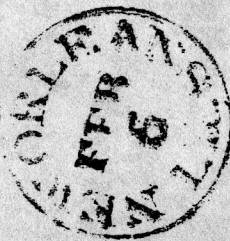


(From) Philo B. Taylor, Esq.
Comr Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

Feb. 6. } 1840.
Recd " 17. }

To
Dr R. M. Patterson,
Director U.S. Mint

Philadelphia



Feb 6th 1840
U.S. Branch Mint New Orleans.

To

Dr R. M. Patterson
Director U.S. Mint

Dear Sir

I have received
from our Superintendent two pair of half
dollar dies and some of smaller denomination.

I have to request that you will
make some allowance for my want of expe-
rience in tempering the dies, and would re-
mind you of their liability to crack in
hardening &c. I beg therefore you will send
us a sufficient number to prevent any
delay for want of them and in a short time
I will inform you of my success in using
them. I would thank you to state to me
the number of coins that each pair should
stamp when properly tempered.

As you have requested me
to write you on all matters connected
with the Mint, I would mention

that I think we are labouring under much
inconvenience, for want of ~~your~~ instruction
from you, in relation to the duties of the sev-
eral officers, and rules of the Mint generally.

I beg you will mention particularly
of the number of hours required of the
workmen per day, including the time of
eating their dinners, which you know
is always done in the Mint and requires
but a few minutes, and whether or not, it
is customary to allow them pay for time worked
over the regular hours when it is necessarily re-
quired of them (excepting the fireman who comes
before the others to raise steam &c)

I have received through the Sup^t
your instructions in regard to the size of
coins, and the only difficulty I fear, is in
procuring the proper inch.

I expect to have the quarter dollar
press in operation about the middle of March.

Very Respectfully

Your Humble Servant
Philip B. Tyler
Coiner

R. M. Patterson
Director